**WASHINGTON, DC**- Today, Congressman Jim Costa (D-Bakersfield) announced that a total of \$8,129,407 has been awarded to the Golden Empire Transit District for fareboxes and preventive maintenance. Funding was released through the US Department of Transportation made available in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

"The Golden Empire Transit District already has a world-class public transportation system, but these funds will simply make it better," said Costa. "Investments in public transportation is a wise use of federal dollars, and maintaining a current fleet of buses will save taxpayers money over the long term."

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) included \$8.4 billion for transit capital improvements. This law implements the transit formula program related provisions of the ARRA and provides program and grant application requirements for these funds, to be made available through Federal Transit Administration (FTA) assistance programs.